ELECTION DAY...

Photographed at a breakfast held here in his honor on Monday, Oct. 30th, is presidential candidate George McGovern, being welcomed by Lee Novick of the local McGovern for President headquarters. Representative Irv Stolberg, to McGovern's right, looks on while Eleanor McGovern, in the foreground, turns to greet Senator Abraham Ribicoff, See centerfold, pages 6&7.(Photo by Alan Kay)

At Yale New Haven Hospital

Union Drive Bursts Out

by Gary Benenson

The battle is on at Yale-New Haven Hospital. The stakes are high. Who will win? On one side are the workers. "Some of us have been working a long, long time. It's not easy to build a union." Now, years of sometimes painfully slow organizing efforts are about to face the real test.

On October 24, the union filed the necessary legal papers to have the Connecticut State Labor Board arrange an election for the roughly 200 people who work in the Hospital's Dietary Department - the cooks, dishwashers, dietary aides and others who make the food for patients and staff. Almost all of these workers take home less than $100 for a full week's work.

If the majority of those who vote elect to have the union (Local 1199, Drug and Hospital Workers, AFL-CIO) as their bargaining representative, it will mean some big changes. It will mark a large step in the campaign to organize all 1500 hospital workers at Yale-New Haven.

It will mark the creation of a large, new addition to the ranks and strength of organized labor in New Haven. It will serve notice to health workers across Connecticut in hospitals, nursing homes, convalescent centers, etc. that the days of miserable wages and working conditions may be coming to an end. In fact, the chair reaction is already underway. Local 1199 has filed papers for union elections at Saint Raphael's Hospital for the Departments of Medical Technology and X-Ray.

Against the Workers

Against the workers stand the people who run Yale-New Haven Hospital. They *See HOSPITAL WORKERS,page 3*

MODERN TIMES

10¢

"What you do is news!" — New Haven — Call 562-2510

Vol.III No. 12 — November 1–14, 1972

Community College Faculties Unite

by Gail Carnese
Norwalk Community College

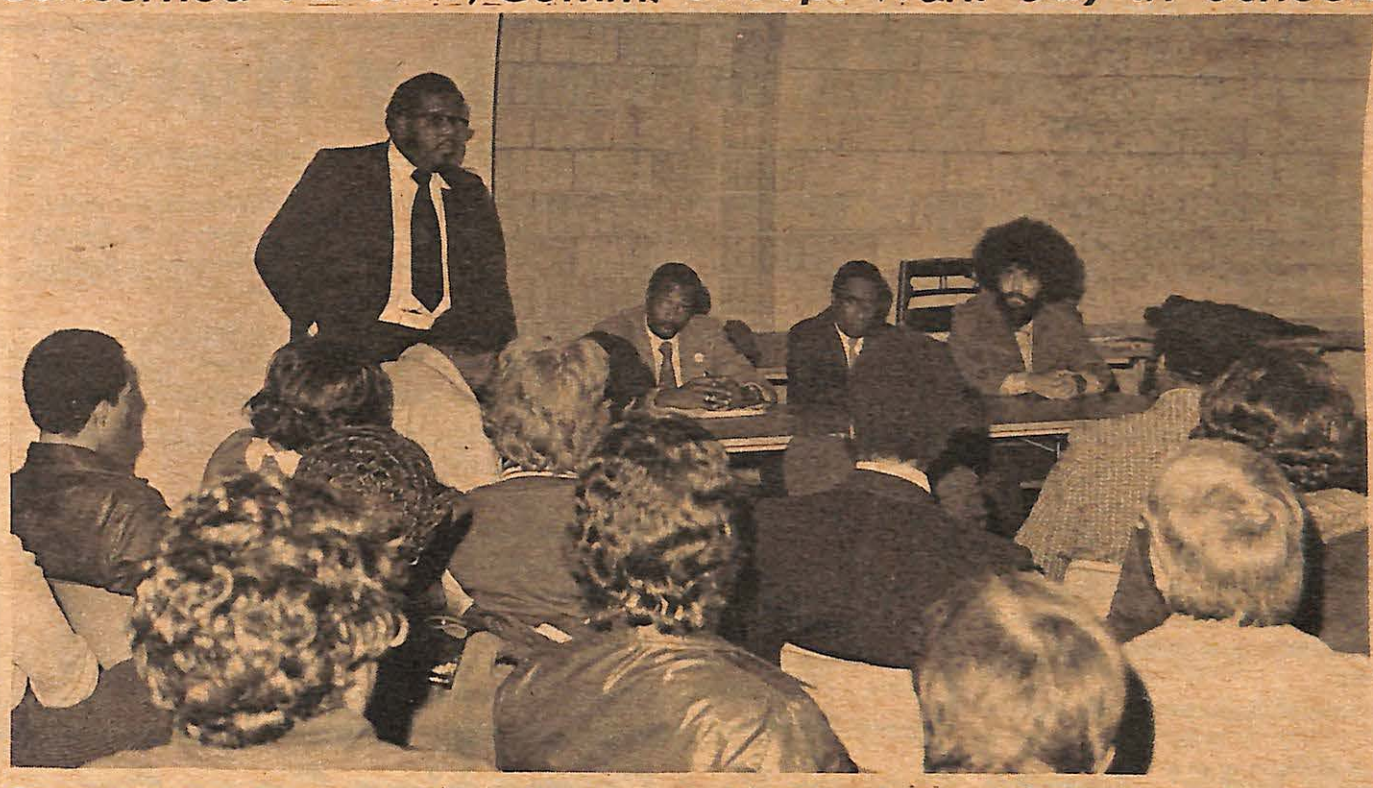
Stratford, October 28, 1972: Professors from Connecticut's twelve Community Colleges met here today to answer Governor Meskill's financial order that they water down their programs, teach more courses, and teach more cheaply. Represented were all teacher organizations including the Connecticut Education Association (CEA), the Connecticut Federation of Teachers (CFT), the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), and the Connecticut State Employee's Association (CSEA). The professors have the united support of all teacher organizations in their fight over working conditions and quality education.

An austerity budget was recommended in August by the Board of Trustees of the Regional Community Colleges. **This budget cut 78 full-time faculty positions. It cut plant and library funds by 25% and eliminated all new courses and programs.**

Budget pressures were behind the faculty's statements. "We teach human beings. We need time and skill to help our

See FACULTIES,page 8

Concerned Parents, Comm. Groups Want Say In Schools



Concerned parents and community groups met Monday evening, Oct. 30th, at the Dixwell "Q" House to lay foundations for more local control of school policies. A strong turnout demonstrated the anger aroused by the "political" appointment of Barbarito over locally supported George Harris as assistant Superintendent of Schools. (MT photo by Nick Heyer)

WHAT'S INSIDE

Welfare page 2

Bars around Town page 5

Occupational Health page 10

The Lowdown On The Welfare System

by Stan Heller
Modern Times Staff

Outside of the War, few issues a have caused as much angry controversy as the issue of welfar. Everyone agrees that the very rapid growth of the number of people on welfare these last 10 years is alarming. The big question is what to do about it.

On popular idea is that welfare rolls would get smaller if we only "got tough" with welfare recipients. This idea is based on the belief that people get on welfare because they're lazy and know they can live high indefinitely off of government money. Men supposedly turn down jobs and women have illegitimate kids just so they can stay on the dole.

How well do these notions square with the facts?

Start with actual Connecticut welfare payments. According to State Welfare Department figures, average payments to welfare families this spring were

no. in family	payment per month
2	$266
3	$292
4	$343

For a family of four, that's $4116 a year, scarcely a princely sum.

This fall after introduction of the new flat grant system, payments have been cut to these levels

no. in family	payment per month
2	$204
3	$263
4	$310

How many people do you know who would quit their job for these kind of checks?

But just the same, aren't there millions of people with no self-respect who do just that? Well, look at the statistics. Of the 13 million Americans on Federal/State supported welfare less than 1% of them are able-bodied men, and about half of these are enrolled in work training programs.

Who is on Welfare?

Who then is on welfare? 9.4% of welfare recipients are blind or disabled. 15.6% are aged. The other 74% goes to support mothers who are the heads of families and have little or no income or savings. Most of the welfare budget goes to families split by desertion, divorce or death.

How about the question of illegitimacy? Isn't it true that typically these broken families are huge and are loaded with illegitimate kids? Actually records show the average number of children in a family on welfare is only three. And the size of these families has been dropping in recent years along with the general decline of the U.S. birth rate.

The issue of illegitimacy needs more detailed comment. While it is true that 68% of children in welfare families were born in wedlock, the figure of 32% born out of wedlock is nothing to dismiss lightly.

Some people think that women on welfare deliberately have more children to get higher payments. But with the average payment for a new child only $35 a month this doesn't seem very likely. The real reasons probably have much more to do with lack of information and money.

Birth Control

The poorer you are the less you know about birth control and abortion. You don't see doctors often and you don't read much about health and medicine. In addition because sex is supposed to be such a dark dirty secret, needed information may be hard to come by. It should not be forgotten that less than 10 years ago it was illegal to even give out information about birth control in this state. The result- more unwanted pregnancies and births.

Cost is a factor, too, particularly for abortions. Abortion reform is recent and only middle-class girls could fly to Sweden and Puerto Rico to have their abortions. Poorer women often don't have enough money to even pay the cost of an abortion in New York or New Haven.

One issue is left. Why aren't more adults off welfare and working at jobs? A partial answer is lack of reasonably priced daycare. How can a woman go to work if she has no one to take care of her children? She's not going to hire a babysitter and pay him or her 90% of her salary.

The Need for Child Care

What welfare mothers need and want is daycare. Presently 14% of women on welfare do work. Surveys show that 21% more would work if they knew their children could be left at an inexpensive daycare center. But few of these places exist. And what action did Nixon take on the Congress' Child Care Bill? The veto .

Aside from lack of daycare there's another big reason more women aren't employed--there are no jobs. A couple of weeks ago **The Register** said New Haven unemployment was 12%. The State Labor Council claims this percentage is typical of Connecticut as a whole. The idea that you can find decent work if you really wan want is just plain wrong.

It's time to stop being fooled by conservatives who want to turn us against people unlucky enough to be on welfare. The real villain is an economy that necessarily creates unemployment, poverty and unsupported broken families. As long as that kind of economy exists unchecked there will always be millions of families on welfare.

Welfare Cuts Rapped At SCCC Conference

Members of the audience "jockey" for floor space after all seats are taken at the meeting on welfare at Southern Connecticut State College on October 26.

by Clarice Pollack
SCSC

A meeting room packed with local college students and other New Haven residents heard a panel of family and child care experts join with Welfare Moms to blast cutbacks in Connecticut welfare payments.

The conference on welfare problems, which was held at Southern Connecticut State College Thursday, Oct. 26, provoked a lively discussion on the real effects the cuts were having on welfare families and on practical ways of financing a better welfare system.

Martha Leonard, Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the Yale Child Study Center told how in the long run *society wasn't saving anything by forcing* children in welfare families to live on the poverty level. These children get poor nutrition and start out life with poor physical and mental health.

There follows a dismal record of failure and inferiority in schools, on jobs and in social relations leading to broken families, crime and hard core unemployment. Eventually all this causes greater public expenses.

Social Service Cutbacks

Irmgaard Wessel, a member of the Advocacy Committee of Family Counselling of New Haven deplored recent cutbacks in Welfare Department social services. This is a kind of welfare cutback that has been given little coverage in the press. It concerns special kinds of help given directly by welfare department personell.

For instance, there used to be a number of social workers who were available to go to the houses of welfare families and help iron out severe family problems. But a combination of a freeze on hiring and layoffs has made these services generally unavailable.

George Tolmie, a social worker for the Bridgeport Welfare Department talked about sources of funds for a more adequate welfare system. He criticized the current tax system claiming it taxed factory workers and small homeowners heavily while passing lightly over major corporations.

He quoted figures showing that insurance companies are paying out about one fifth as much from their earnings as are individual taxpayers. He said that a small increase for the insurance companies and other large corporations which have multi-billion dollar annual gross incomes would more than cover increased money needed to guarantee all children on welfare enough to eat.

Matilda Gibbs and Margaret Dunn represented the New Haven Welfare Moms. They were joined on the panel by their Attorney William Clendenen of The New Haven Legal Assistance Association.

Community Notes

CONNECTICUT READING COUNCIL CONFERENCE

Helping students use their basic reading skills to greater advantage in social studies, science, mathematics and language courses is the purpose of the Twenty-third Annual Reading Conference to be held Nov. 4 by the Connecticut Reading Council.

The program includes an opening address by Dr. M. Jerry Weiss, and various small meetings geared to kindergarten and primary grade teachers. There will also be several panel discussions explaining special programs throughout the state.

The conference will be held at Newington High School in Wallingford. For more information call Dr. Katherine Morrill, 269-9450.

SOMERS PRISON DEMONSTRATION

A group of New Haven members of the Concerned Citizens for Prison Reform (CCPR) demonstrated in front of the Somers Prison on Sunday, October 29, at noon. They protested: the refusal of the wardens to discuss grievances, the refusal of the wardens to meet with the CCPR and the new rule which will not allow a prisoner to see or write to a member of their group.

MOMS' Tents Down But Campaign Goes On

Due to the approach of winter, the MOMS broke camp on the green on Oct. 23. Fighting winter cold is something most of us have to do, but when the coldness of human denial sets in it becomes twice as hard.

(MT photo by Nick Heyer)

Teacher Federation Grows At Southern Conn.

by Chris Doob
So. Conn. Faculty AFT Local 1970

The Southern Connecticut State College chapter of the American Federation of Teachers has had a charter from the national for three years, but it is only this fall that the membership has started to build. At the beginning of the semester, in early September, there were nine active members and now, some five weeks later, there are ninety from among the teaching and non-teaching faculty.

We have been spurred on by events. There have been no increments, in fact not even any cost of living raises. There is no hiring, not even replacement of those who retire or resign. Still, the student body is growing, and so classes are becoming larger, and there is the distinct threat of an increase in teaching load from twelve to fifteen hours. This would further curtail the effectiveness of teachers. These issues have raised consciousness, making clear to faculty the need to organize. Now that organizing has begun, we have moved beyond a mere defensive response to a positive assertion of our basic rights.

Irving Leskovitz, President of the Local and biology teacher, speaks to members of a meeting of the Southern Connecticut faculty AFT, Monday, Oct. 30, 1972. (M-T photo by P. Miller)

Our Program

Some of the preliminary concerns for our program include:

a) Equal employment for women and minorities.
b) A negotiated contract (something we lack presently) specifying (1) wages and increments, (2) public and due process for hiring, promotion, and firing, (3) parity for non-teaching with teaching faculty, including librarians who presently do not have parity with non-teaching faculty, and (4) pay scales comparable to those at the University of Connecticut.
c) Support for legislators who support collective bargaining.

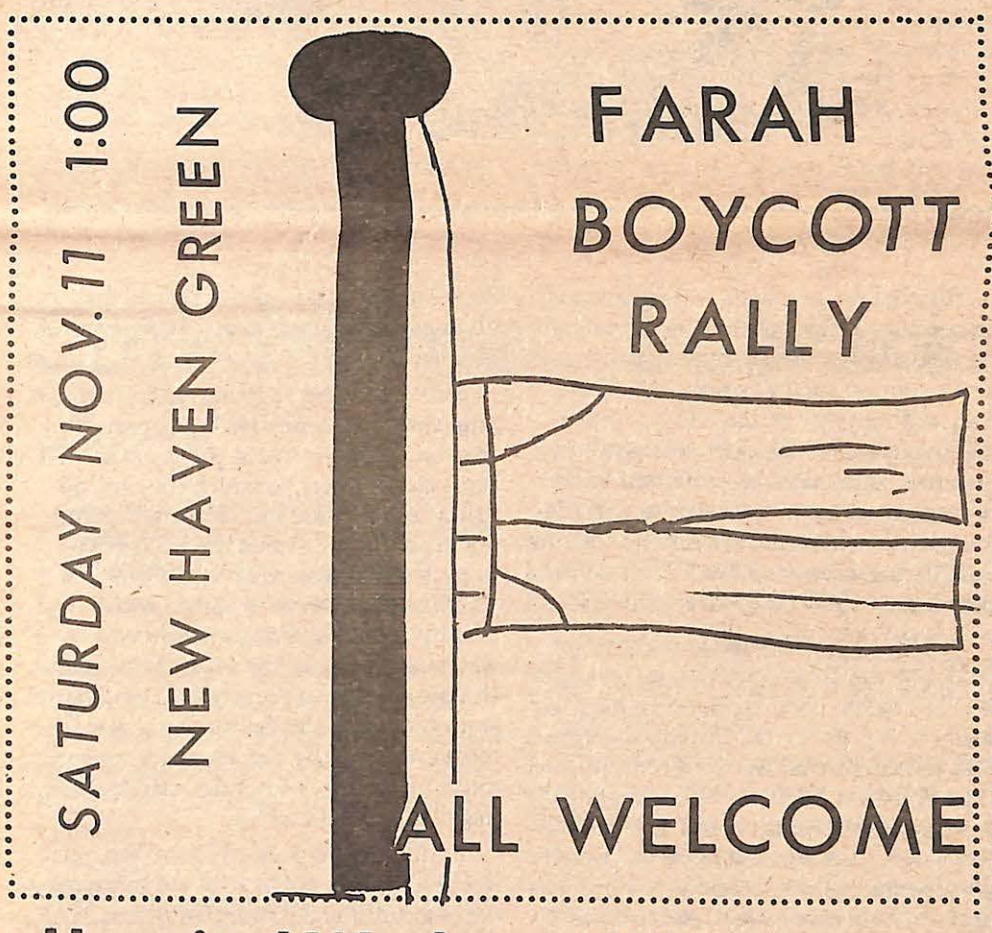
Recent though our development is, we have already been involved in an important issue on campus. A short time ago, it was decreed from Hartford that the faculty in all four state colleges, before receiving their pay checks, must formally designate duties completed, and at Southern we have been required to sign a statement documenting our attendance record.

Several members of the Union were disturbed by this new requirement, and an AFT lawyer was consulted. He informed us that the school administration has a legal right to ask us to indicate whether we have carried out our duties, in the manner of a time clock. He added that the statement to be signed, referring only to fulfillment of duties, is vague, essentially meaningless, unlike an earlier statement that specifically mentioned assigned responsibilities. He said we would defend against charges of job negligence any Union member who attended his classes regularly, and he added that such a case would have an excellent chance of success. Following the lawyer's response the membership agreed to sign, and a statement to the faculty describing what happened and the Union action taken was distributed.

What We Will Do

In the upcoming months, building our membership is a priority. Numbers, just sheer numbers, are always useful for impact, but we have a special reason to be concerned about them now. Due to come up in the next legislative session is a bill giving state employees a right to choose their bargaining agent, and it is likely to be passed. At Southern this means the faculty will elect a representative, and the choice will be between the Union and three other organizations that in the past have done little to support our rights. There is not much doubt the Union will win, but every new member is one more assured vote for our side.

Some of us also believe that a firm coalition with students should be established now. Although traditional snobbery in colleges and universities has played down the common interests of students and faculty, our present realities make them undeniable. Large classes is a problem we must face together. An increase in teaching load will be detrimental to both groups. And then some teachers realize that detailed and publicized evaluations by students will help create a more vibrant atmosphere for themseves, as well as helping to give the students better courses. There is great promise here. For the first time we can create an atmosphere where mutually productive and stimulating relationships between students and faculty are established.



Hospital Workers Bid For Union

continued from page 1

are fighting against the union now as they have for years. The upcoming election is the biggest test so far for them, too. At the top, there is Yale University itself - rich and eager to advance knowledge, culture and science, but not too eager to do much for its severely underpaid workers. Below the top are all the hired managers and supervisors who must do the dirty work of putting down the efforts of hospital workers to build better lives for their families.

Yale-New Haven Dietary workers and those in other departments as well have tried to organize before, but they have never had the quick success of the last few weeks. First, several Dietary aides contacted the Concerned Hospital Workers, a group long active in organizing at the Hospital. Through them, Local 1199 was brought in. A meeting was set up, which nearly 50 workers attended. They discussed what was happening on their jobs--heavy work changes in jobs and hours from one day to the next or harsh orders by Dieticians. Then they decided to organize.

Organizing Moves Fast

In a week, a majority of Dietary Workers had signed union organizing cards. Using the cards as evidence of interest, Local 1199 filed a petition for a Union representation election for the Dietary Department. The date and conditions will be decided at a conference between a group of dietary workers, their Union representatives and the Hospital administration and the State Labor Board.

The election itself will be held in the Hospital. Every Dietary worker will have a right to vote on the question: Do you wish to be represented in collective bargaining by Local 1199? - Yes or No.

If a majority of Dietary workers vote Yes, the Hospital administration will have to recognize the Union and negotiate a contract for the Dietary Department.

Labor Notes

FARAH BOYCOTT

The boycott movement of Farah Pants is well underway in Connecticut, according to Joe Smyth of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. The upcoming rally on the New Haven Green to publicize the boycott is receiving a very favorable response from statewide labor leaders and a large crowd is expected. The rally, to be held on Saturday, November 11 at 1:00 p.m. will have several speakers to discuss the Farah strike.

Boycott efforts have been notably successful so far in this area. Both Perke's Department Store on Grande Avenue in Fair Haven and Macy's chain, including the New Haven branch have agreed to cease buying Farah pants. Once their existing stock is bought out they will be selling other brands.

One chain that has continued to purchase Farah pants in spite of the boycott request is Arthur's. They have branches in Bridgeport, Milford and Hamden, at the Hamden Mall. There will be picketing at all these stores over the next several weeks. Another notable houldout in the New Haven area is Malley's. Discussions are under way between Malley's management and boycott leaders. If no agreement is reached, Malley's will likely face massive picketing.

SHOOTING ORGANIZERS A NO-NO

Eager Beaver Trucking, a California firm, has promised the National Labor Relations Board to stop shooting at union organizers--at least while its employees are watching.

In a consent stipulation, settling unfair labor practice charges stemming out of a Teamsters organizing campaign, the company agreed to provide back pay to workers who were illegally fired. And it promised it would "not threaten employees with bodily harm if they support a union."

Furthermore, the company pledged in the notice it posted in compliance with the NLRB order:

"We will not point firearms at and/or discharge firearms in the direction of union representatives in the presence of employees." **AFL-CIO News**

ANOTHER SUIT AGAINST BD OF ED

by Joe Dimow
President of the New Haven Human Relations Council

Attempts to equalize educational opportunities are being pressed locally by attacks on the present local school board district organization. A petition is being circulated by concerned citizens to ask the Board of Aldermen at its November meeting to join the City of Hartford in a Federal Court Suit against the State Board of Education. The Hartford City Council action is aimed at changing the present school district organization from a town to a larger regional district set-up.

See UNFAIR, page 8

Editorial

"Peace Deals" For Elections?

Nixon's "peace deal" in Vietnam is his Halloween present to Americans who want this war ended now. Instead of trick or treat, we find ourselves getting both tricked and getting the treatment. For where in all the publicity and all the statements is any real guarantee of peace? In fact, the real lessons of this latest bit of fast dealing can teach us much about the hows and whys of Washington's acts of war and peace. If we mark these lessons well, it may help us make the changes here at home that can bring a real peace within our reach.

First, the United States government and its few remaining friends in Vietnam are in a weaker position now than at any earlier time of the Vietnam War. The cease fire that Nixon now wants to sign leaves only a tiny portion of Vietnam under pro-US control. During the last 6 months, for example, it is estimated that 2.5 million more Vietnamese became part of the "other government" in South Vietnam, administered by the National Liberation Front.

The delay in signing a cease-fire not only cost the US government much territory, it also meant death and injury to countless Vietnamese and Americans and the waste of billions of US tax dollars. The only purpose of the delay was to postpone that day when Washington would have to face the fact that South Vietnam was indeed "lost," no longer open to US business investments or military bases. Despite years of failure, Washington refused to accept defeat. They hoped for a miracle, but they got only a bigger defeat in the form of this latest "settlement." And can we doubt the temptations in Washington and in Nixon to maybe try a little bit longer, say after the election passes?

The other big lesson has to do with dates, in particular the magic date of October 31, Halloween. Think back to 1968, when years of war and the shock of the Tet Offensive showed most Americans the hopelessness of Washington's policies. It was election time. The polls said that Americans wanted an end to the war, there and then. Desperate politicians worried about election day put the pressure on. And so, on October 31, 1968, the President announced an end to all bombing by the US of North Vietnam. After all, the bombing had, as many Americans knew, done nothing to end the war.

Now, October 31, 1972, four years later - with Washington hardly the wiser - another President is also worried about elections. So again we have the announcement, this time about cease-fire deals. Again, the American people are treated to the horrifying spectacle of warfare turned on and off so one group of politicians can snatch a batch of votes from a war-weary population. Not very pretty.

Of course, we at **Modern Times** join most Americans in wanting an end to the war and the immediate withdrawal of all American troops from all of Southeast Asia. We can only add that it is important to learn the lessons of Nixon's latest ploy, if we are to make the changes in this country that will prevent Nixon or anyone else from being able to make wars for years and peace for elections.

Write On

Justice On Ballot

To the Editors:

Until recently I believed that the era of Joseph McCarthy was a nightmare in American history. I was shocked to discover that it is a living nightmare being perpetuated today in the office of the Town Clerk of the City of New Haven.

I registered to vote early this Spring under the provisions of the Constitutional Amendment extending the franchise to 18 year olds. One of my first acts as a voter came during the summer when I signed my name to a petition to put the Communist Party on the ballot in Connecticut this November. I was pleased to hear later this fall that the Communist Party had gathered more than enough signatures to be listed on the ballot.

But across the state of Connecticut, the spectre of McCarthyism arose. Names of duly registered voters were crossed off the petitions by the offices of Town Clerks. My name was marked ineligible by the New Haven Town Clerk.

I am not a Communist. I will not be voting for Hall-Tyner on Election Day. But I strenuously protest the trampling of my Constitutional rights as a voter in this state. I treasure my civil liberties and those of my fellow citizens. The denial of my rights is an onimous shadow looming over our state and nation. We must not let such attacks continue unchallenged.

The Communist Party will not be on the ballot, despite attempts in court. I cannot correct the error of the Town Clerk Clerk. But I can and will continue to fight for justice for the American people.

Yours for peace and justice,

David M. Wessel
New Haven, Ward 29

For Balanced View

To the Editor:

I disagree with the letter, "Israel Criticized" (Oct. 15,). Of course, the Israeli government deserves much criticism. But the advocates of the neat formula--a "democratic state in Palestine"--intend more than criticism of Israel: they seek to dismantle and end the existence of Israel as an independent state! They don't want to correct Israel; they want to abolish it!

This aim is completely unrealistic and dangerous. Almost all the Israelis, including the left opposition and peace advocates won't support such a "solution." The Israelis will simply not agree to become a minority people with dubious rights in a new Arab dominated state. Where is the Arab state which is "socialist, secular, democratic" or in which Jews do not endure humiliating discriminations? This demand perpetuates right-wing extremism in Israel.

I dislike the militarists and conservatives who now run Israel, but with all its faults it is fatuous to compare Israel to nazi Germany or South Africa. Despite indefensible discriminations against Arabs in Israel their situation is a far cry from that of the Jews under the nazis. Arabs in Israel publish newspapers which oppose the Israeli government, they conduct public protests against it, there are Arab-Jewish movements for equality and peace and many Arabs regularly vote and elect Arab Communists to public office, including the parliament. Last summer 150,000 Arabs from countries technically at war with Israel crossed into Israel to spend thier vacations there! Obviously they knew they weren't going into a nazi Germany.

It is a gross simplication to claim that the Jews or even the Zionists are solely to blame for the plight of the Palestinians; Arab feudal rulers and imperialism also had a big hand in that.

Most Jews fled to Palestine from European and Arab countries in the past 90 years as victims of racist persecutions. They came to a country to which they had religious and historic ties. Imperialism did not create Israel. It was the United Nations in 1947, *spurred on by the Soviet Union and the Socialist states*, which proposed dividing Palestine into two states - one Jewish, the other Arab. Had this proposal been accepted then by the Arab rulers and the Palestinian movements, as it was by the Jews in Palestine, much of the troubles of the past 25 years might have been averted.

In this complicated situation progressives and radicals ought to avoid supporting the chauvinist and nationalist demands of one side against the other. They should work for the sovereignty and statehood of the Palestinian people, not for the elimination of Israel. Both sides should be urged to silence their chauvinist extremists and both sides should give up on unrealistic and impossible demands. *Israel must not expect it can hold onto Arab territory and the Palestinian side should not expect it can end Israel's existence.*

Sid Resnick

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MODERN TIMES

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MODERN TIMES is published by the American Independent Movement (AIM) as its political organ. Work on MODERN TIMES is done by volunteers, both members and non-members of AIM. The political views of AIM are given in the editorial. We encourage contributions of the New Haven community in the form of articles and letters.

MODERN TIMES is a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get that kind of news in commercial papers run for profit. There is no place else where the work and play of people who aren't rich is considered important enough to write about. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working women and men are told by them instead of by their bosses. There is no place else where hunger, bad housing and education, lack of health care and police harassment that people live with is told by them.
We live in the richest country in the world. But only a few people get to use most of this wealth for themselves. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. Then there would be no need to strike for a few more crumbs, waste our resources and labor on rockets and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need—not what is profitable.

The American Independent Movement has been working since 1966 to get people together against the rich, powerful few who run New Haven and the whole country. We want everyone to have good housing, good education, child care centers, recreation areas, decent health care and decent jobs.

STAFF: David Adams, Gary Benenson, Matt Borenstein, Ed Breuler, Jerry Cohen, Ellen Comisso, Vittorio Comisso, Lillian Dimow, Joelle Dominski, Art Fleischner, Paul Gill, Sam Goodwin, Stanley Heller, Liz Henderson, Nick Heyer, Eileen Hoffman, Peter Jackson, Lynne Karsten, Karl Lechow, Alice Mick, Ray Milici, Patti Miller, Laurie Nussdorfer, Jim Jordan, Renee Poirier, Peter O'Connell, Naomi Resnick, Ruth Resnick, Florrie Ricciuti, Bob Sherry, Henry Tamarin, Ross Thompson, Sergio Verillo, Rick Wolff, Karen Wolff

EAST SIDE ROUND UP

Outlook Is Brighter For New Haven Democrats

by Frank R. Annunziato

With just a few days to the election, the picture looks much brighter for the Democrats of New Haven.

Several months ago, immediately after the McGovern nomination, I wrote that local politicos were backing off supporting the national ticket. Over the weeks, the word has been given to get moving and local leaders are out hustling the votes.

The 8th ward committee (that's largely Wooster Square) has been regularly meeting and has actively come out for McGovern-Shriver. This is also true for the organizations in the 11th and 13th wards in Fair Haven and the 15th ward in Morris Cove. TONY TANESZIO, ward Chairman of the 13th, has stated publicly over and over again, at ward meetings that he is behind the whole Democratic ticket and that *there better not be any tickei splitting this time around.*

Conspicuously absent from this general pro McGovern-Shriver movement has been the organization in the two Democratic strongholds of Fair Haven, the 9th and 10th wards. To my knowledge, there has been no work at all in these areas except for a stray student volunteer or two. None of the old Democratic organization has been pushing the whole ticket. It would be a real kick to party chairman ARTHUR BARBIERI if his old home turf didn't come out with its traditional gigantic Democratic majority. Unless a lot of money and bodies are put on the line election day the old heart of Fair Haven might not pump too hard November 7. Don't get me wrong, these two wards will go Democratic--I'm just wondering about how big.

Two new members of the Fair Haven Neighborhood Corporation are pictured above. Julie Alberino is heading a voluntwer tutor program. Bob Agnese is starting up programs in arts and crafts and a pin-ball tourney. (MT photo by Nick Heyer)

At any rate, the Republican party--just like always--is playing dead again. Maybe GOP chairman AL SPADARO's words are not being followed or, more probably, Republicans just don't know what to do to win an election in New Haven.

Continuing with politics for just a moment more, the people of the 11th ward are still without an Alderman. Their old representative, RAY O'NEIL is living in the woods of Branford. The Mayor has not come around to appoint a replacement. Rumors are flying around as to who the new person will be. I can't give any predictions but the top candidate seems to be a guy named JACK PENDERS. Jack and his family have lived in the ward since the potato famine, just about, and they are liked and respected by many people. He is currently working with the Connecticut State Employees Association.

The Fair Haven Neighborhood Corporation has just hired two new staff members who will work with young people in the community. JULIE ALBERINO, the educational coordinator, is currently looking for volunteer tutors who will work with mostly little kids. BOB AGNESE, youth development coordinator, is starting up programs in arts and crafts, leathercraft, photography and drama. He is also planning a big pin-ball tournament with trophies and everything for the teenagers. Anyone interested in helping these people or taking advantage of the programs contact BOB and JULIE at the FHNC office, 339 Grand Avenue, 562-3125.

BETTY TOCCHI, a Board of Director's member of FHNC, is directing the kids in the neighborhood in a production of the *WIZARD OF OZ.* Poor Betty! She had to explain to an almost six-foot tall sixth grader that she would be better cast as a soldier than as a munchkin!!!

Lunchtime Labors at Lou's Grill

by A.J. Amis

When the noon whistle blows on weekdays in New Haven many folks in the Goffe Street area head for Lou's Goffe Grill. Standing with one naked outside wall beside the site where the new Dixwell area firehouse will be built, Lou's is a natural gathering place for hungry workers who need a quick lunch, a beer and maybe a "depth charge" to start the afternoon.

Coming in off the street you walk into a dark, high-ceilinged room with a big sign over the grill in back that says: "Ironworkers Union-Local 424-New Haven." Underneath that is a portrait of Madeleine Darrow Miss Rheingold, 1952.

If you hear a gruff voice coming from behind the bar on the right, that's Lou himself. A life-long resident of New Haven and 20 year veteran of the bar-restaurant business, Lou Leopold has something to say about almost everything. Sometimes his talk is heated, sometimes spicy, sometimes just a run-down of what's going on along the street as he pushes across the bar, glasses and mugs of Rheingold on tap.

When business is heaviest, from 12-1, two older men, Louie and Frank, help out behind the bar. This year Frank has bad arthritis and can't use his legs much, but he's usually there just the same, sipping a beer and reading the newspaper. In the afternoon, Bobby, a younger man and a bus driver comes in to help out.

Added Attraction

Anyone who frequents Lou's is bound to get to know Pat Capoldo, chief cook and dishwasher behind the counter of the grill. When the noon rush begins Pat starts to scowl as he throws together sausage grinders, hamburgers and his speciality of the day. Pat's muttered advice is "Tell me exactly what you want--don't expect me to to read your mind." The service isn't fancy, but it's for sure you won't find a better cheese burger or plate of lasagna anywhere in that part of town.

One afternoon I asked Lou about the several union signs hanging around the room. He looked around at them and started remembering: "I been here since 1952. Back then we had the Labor Temple right down the street where the Florence Virtue housing project is now. I was the only Union Bar on the street; so all the craftsmen and laborers used to come here to drink and have meetings. We had carpenters, plumbers, ironworkers; all of them came, and a few hung up their signs. Why, we served lasagna dinners for as many as thirty people at a time. Finally my competitor down the street got smart, and he joined the bartenders union too. But that was O.K. In those days there was enough business for everybody. Even though the Labor Temple is on Water Street now some of the union people still come here," and he pointed to three guys sitting at the other end of the bar .

Bartender Blues

Then he turned the conversation to his view of the business. "Being a bartender isn't a bad job when you got a good job. And it's funny, because it's just like they always say; 'you're a father confessor. Everybody tells you their troubles. gotta have a good ear and a strong shoulder.

"After a while you get to know people real well. You know who you can tell a joke to, who you can't. I can tell whether a man is any good, whether he's boisterous whether he's trustworthy.

"And while I'm listening I always keep an eye on what's happening. Even when I'm not here, someone tells me what went on. Some customers are unconscious stool pigeons that way. It's almost like having radar."

Using his radar then, he turned and ambled away to refill a glass for one of the few remaining customers. It was late in the afternoon and the room was quiet. Tomorrow it would come to life all over again.

The one time hot spot for local labor people, Lou's Goffe Grill still serves a hearty crowd at lunchtimes. (MT photo by Nick Heyer)

We Must Continue To Work Not
But Also For Peace An

Jane Fonda, well known actress, addressed thousands of New Haveners last Wednesday evening, Oct. 25, at Woolsey Hall. Calling for an end to the inhuman war in Vietnam, she strongly endorses Sen. George McGovern. (MT photo by Sergio Verillo)

Eleanor McGovern is pictured here at an earlier New Haven visit. She returned with her husband this week during a final swing through the state as they wind up the campaign. (MT photo by Nick Heyer)

Phil Ochs, long time singer of peace and freedom songs, appeared with Jane Fonda. Proceeds of the rally went to the Medical Aid to Indochina Committee. (MT photo by Patti Miller)

VOTE FO
ON

"Mylai"
Woodcut by Ruth Resnick

OVERHEARD OVER S.E. ASIA

'White phosphorus, white phosphorus,
mechanical snow,
where are you falling?'

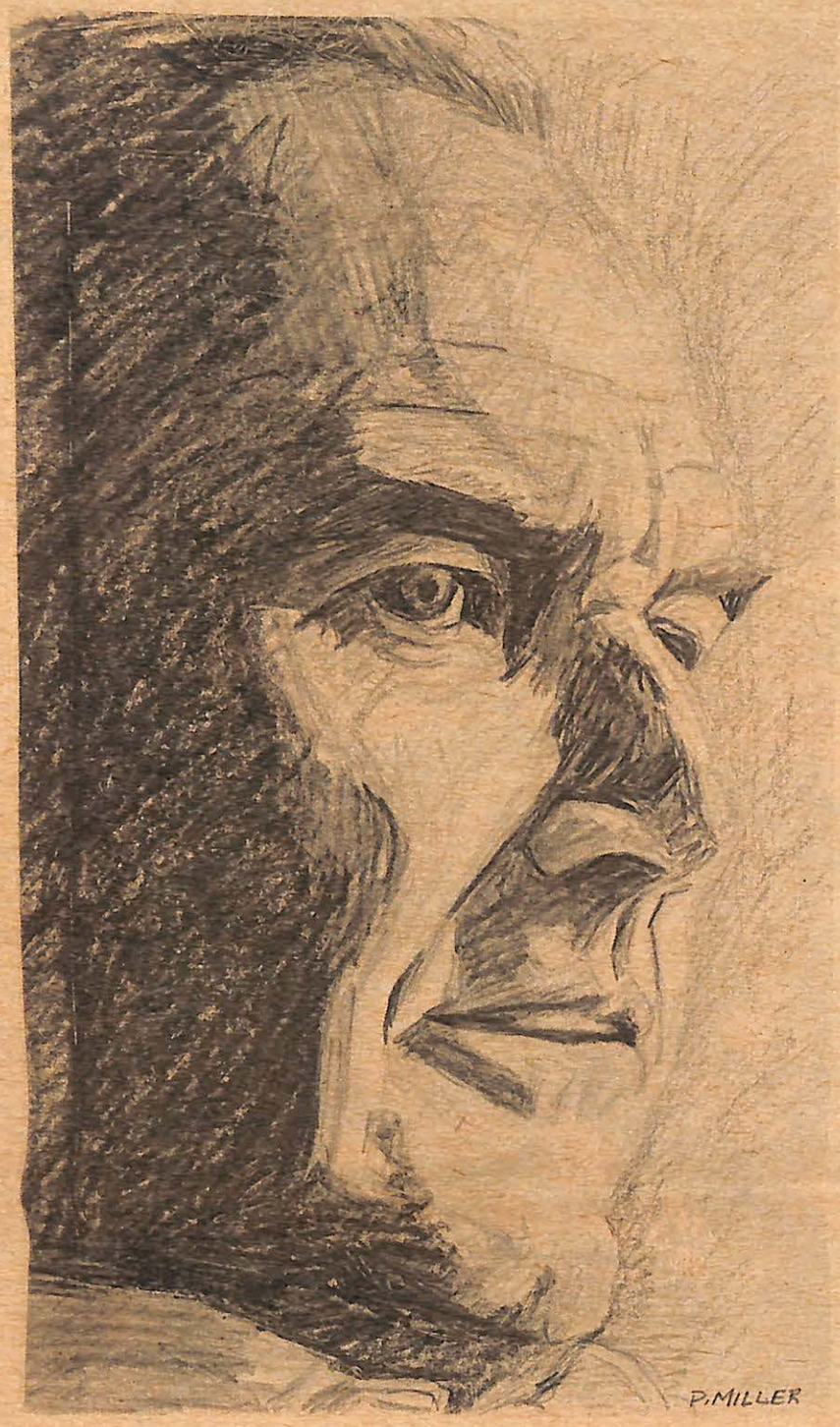
'I am falling impartially on roads and roofs,
on bamboo thickets, on people.
My name recalls rich rainy season nights,
each drop that hits the surface eliciting
luminous response from a million algae.
My name is a whisper of sequins. Ha!
Each of them is a disk of fire.
I am the snow that burns.

I fall
wherever men send me to fall -
but I prefer flesh, so smooth, so dense:
I decorate it in black, and seek
the bone.'

Denise Levertov

Printed with permission

nue To Work Not Only For Peace In Vietnam, so For Peace And Justice In This Country



VOTE FOR McGOVERN ON NOVEMBER 7

A demonstration, organized by the New Haven Student Union,againist the ongoing Viet Nam War was held this weekend on the New Haven Green.

(MT photo by Vittorio Comisso)

Eleanor McGovern is pictured here at an earlier New Haven visit. She returned with her husband this week during a final swing through the state as they wind up the campaign.

(MT photo by Nick Heyer)

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Crime Doesn't Pay--Or Does It ?

by Rick Wolff
Modern Times Staff

Crime does pay. It pays the wages of thousands, maybe millions of Americans. It means big profits for business. Some people say that for America, crime is like government spending on defense and war. "You have got to have both, or else what would happen to all those people without jobs."

Without crime, we wouldn't pay so many people to join our police forces or our growing armies of private watchguards. And it is crime that makes us turn over so many billions of our taxes to police departments so that they can buy more cars, better radio equipment, new paddy wagons, entire new police stations and even helicopters in some places. And that is mighty good news for the companies that make or build these things. And those companies provide jobs, don't they?

Crime pays off for the companies making locks, keys, safes, burglar alarms, floodlights, cans of mace, guns. That light you keep on in your home all night is great news for the light bulb manufacturer as well as for the electric company.

Vets Smile

The watchdog you decide to buy opens up new jobs for people in the animal-raising business. And that means good news for the companies making dog food, dog collars, flea powder, leashes. The veterinarians smile too.

The executives on the 20th floor of the *insurance company order another round of drinks, because of all the worried people taking out policies against theft.*

Yale President Kingman Brewster sips his wine at lunch with the comforting news that Yale will make $1 million more this year because of a juicy grant from the Department of Justice in Washington.

The grant will pay for a 7 year study by psychologists, sociologists, political scientists, law professors and others. Their job is to study crime. Don't try to tell them that crime doesn't pay. They know better. Their teaching jobs depend on it.

Big Game Market

People afraid to leave their homes after dark are people who will have to find things to do at home. They are buying more games, more basement ping-pong and pool tables, more power equipment for the shop, more home movie cameras and projectors, more hi-fi. A lot of people have jobs making those things.

City people try to escape from crime by moving to the suburbs or the country. That means business for new home builders and for the furniture makers.

Crime makes people fear to use public transportation. So they buy more cars, use up more gas and oil and rubber. That too is good for business. More cars mean more gas stations, garages, auto part shops, parking lots and meter maids.

Crime, like war, is good buiness in America. Sure, some people get hurt or even killed, but after all, that's life. Or, to put it another way, that's the way our economy works. If what you care about is jobs, then why worry about what things those jobs produce. Don't kill the golden goose (crime) that lays those pretty eggs (profits and jobs). Makes sense, doesn't it?

Soon To Be Released

Rounder records 4001
MOUNTAIN MOVING DAY
the new haven women's liberation rock band,
the chicago women's liberation rock band & a caste of millions

This is the album cover design for the soon to be released album of The Women's Liberation Rock Bands of Chicago and New Haven. The album will be out before December--Watch for it.

Challenging Unfair Schools

continued from page 3

The present system allows the rich towns to isolate themselves from the cities and their problems. It also makes efforts to integrate the schools more difficult because that requires mixing school districts. The system encourages people with higher incomes to move to the suburban towns to take advantage of their school system, it creates ghetto schools in ghetto areas and feeds the provincial notion of "our" school and "their" school. A regional school district would knock out the legal underpinning of these problems.

Project Concern

Project Concern, for example, which offers an additional educational opportunity to inner city children, is financed by contracts between the inner cities and the suburban towns. New Haven pays a tuition for each Project Concern child attending school in another town, and also pays for teachers and aides. The amount per pupil is negotiated separately with each Board of Education in each town and ranges at present up to $1,000.00. Some towns "charge" more, hoping that New Haven will be unable to pay and then they will be able to "innocently" deny that they are opposed to taking black inner city children into their schools. Exactly this happened in Woodbridge this year, with a close split on the Board there, over such hypocrisy.

Then too, some towns agree to take 25 New Haven children, but officials are often so frightened of hostile white parents that they create obstacles. The children may be divided among 5 or 6 schools so that administrators have to be masters of logistics every day to get all the children to different schools on time, dropping off 4 here and 5 there, along with teachers and aides. After New Haven has agreed to provide one teacher for every 25 pupils it is frustrating to ask that teacher to divide his or her time in several schools.

However, not all problems lie with the suburban towns. Project Concern is also hindered by a distinct lack of enthusiasm on the part of New Haven administrators.

Project Concern is only one of several educational programs that would benefit tremendously if these problems were eliminated by combining school districts into a regional set-up.

The Board of Aldermen, if it follows usual procedure, will set a date for a public hearing on the request before taking action.

This suit should not be confused with recent court cases challenging the "property tax" system of financing schools. At present the bulk of school finances in almost every state is raised by property taxes in each locality. The effect is that very often some towns with a larger tax base (either individual property owners or businesses) can pay less per tax payer and yet more on education per pupil than the poorer districts. The California and Texas cases which are now on appeal seek a more equal way of financing public education.

W.H. Teachers Uniting Behind Sen. McGovern

by Chris Bannon
Chairman - WHFT Political Action Committee

The West Haven Federation of Teachers Political Action Committee has endorsed the candidacy of Senator George McGovern for President. The union has taken this step because of our conviction that President Nixon is uninterested in solving the growing problems of public education.

While in city after city taxes rise, class sizes grow and teachers face layoffs, President Nixon refuses to pass the legislation needed to release adequate federal money to the cities. During his administration, he has taken the unprecedented step of vetoing three major education bills and one important child care bill.

George McGovern has accurately criticized the Nixon record on education and proposed that the federal government move to pay 1/3 the costs of U.S. public education. This is a sound solution to the financial problems of the cities and evidence that George McGovern is the kind of person we need in the White House these next four years.

FACULTIES JOIN FORCES

continued from page 1

students, the least advantaged of the state's college students, to develop," said Sid Lipshires of Manchester Community College. "This cut-back which Meskill forced on his appointees to our board of trustees will wreck our program," he added. "Joining together is our only chance to fight this."

Fourteen Thousand Students

Fourteen thousand students are enrolled today in the Community College system. The liberal arts graduates are automatically admitted as juniors to the four year state colleges. Technical and vocational graduates enter the labor force as daycare teachers, accountants, nurses, etc.

The fourteen thousand students at the twelve Community Colleges are equal to the number of freshmen and sophomores at all the other state-supported colleges combined. This strong new wave in higher education is the only alternative for working people and their children to enter a college-oriented job market.

The Community Colleges are the only place where these 14,000 students can get quality education while they are working to support themselves.

The Community Colleges are inexpensive for the students at $6.25 a credit. The legislature picked up the tab because business and government need more educated workers. "Perhaps now, with unemployment so high, Meskill doesn't want our students to compete with richer students for jobs," said one teacher. "Unless we unite and our organization can help us, we'll either be eliminated or we'll get the same things as you get in the high schools now. Kids are passed who don't know any skills and can't compete for jobs."

"In tax accounting", said Professor Charles Trantanella of Norwalk Community College, "I teach the students the new tax laws each year. I can't keep them up to date with the tax laws and go over 150 pupils' daily workbook assignments from my freshmen classes. The new added hours and larger course loads will mean that our students won't be properly trained."

The mood of the meeting was summarized by Kay Bergin, former president of the Community College Faculty Senate: "Joining a united strong organization is one answer to this complicated economic and professional problem. Other answers are lawsuits, slowdowns or despair."

The meeting ended with the election of members to a planning committee for future actions of the unified Community College Organization.

Television Programs for Children or Profit?

by Eileen Hoffman
and Barbara Greenwood
Modern Times Staff

By the age of five, the average American child has put in more television viewing time than he or she will spend in four years of undergraduate classes. Put another way, the child will have clocked 20,000 hours in front of the "boob tube" before entering college.

We, first-generation, TV weaned, Americans are finally becoming conscious of the impact that television has had on our lives and will have on our children's lives.

Last week the Third National Symposium on Children and Television was held at Yale. Psychiatrists, artists, parents, advertisers, producers, students and other interested people got together for three days of discussions and workshops on the problems of children's television.

Youngsters and teenagers expressed their feelings about televsion through a videotape done by Bob Abramovitz of the Yale Child Study Center and Arthur Greenberg, a Yale student.

Two members of the staff of the Sesame Street television program perform during the symposium. The three day symposium consisted of discussions and workshops to explore the problems od children's television. (M-T photo by Nick Heyer)

Mindless Activity

"TV is great 'cause its the one real mindless activity."

"Batman kills the Joker and the Joker kills Batman...then Mommy kills the Joker."

In a world where reality is harsh enough to adjust to, our kids are frustrated and confused when they relate what they see on on TV to what happens in real life.

Why do children's programs have to be this way? Well, it seems to be good business. Television networks buy their right to broadcast from the government and then sell air time to businesses that want access into the homes and minds of future consumers.

Violence Pays

In 1970, gross network revenues from advertising on weekend children's shows totaled $74,664,400--up from $68,994,300 in 1969. Violence and fantasy, unfortunately captivate young viewers and suit this purpose.

Saturday morning shows reach from eight to twelve million children weekly. There is an average of one commercial every 2.8 minutes a fantastic bombardment of selling aimed directly at youngsters.

The code of the National Association of Broadcasters allows twice as much advertising on children's daytime shows as on adult prime time shows. The special trust and fondness children give to hosts on children's shows is heavily exploited. As long as selling remains the primary function of children's television, the programming will be aimed at profit rather than education.

Stop Children's Ads

Action for Children's Television (ACT) is one concerned group that has been working for the last few years to stop this commercial exploitation of children.

ACT has initiated an FCC inquiry into children's television and has asked the FCC to stop television advertising directed at children. Their goals are to get broadcasters and advertisers to provide high quality programs geared to specific age groups and the elimination of commercialism from children's programs.

These criticisms that have been made of children's television are probably just as true of "adult" television. Until we get rid of the quest for profits in television we will continue to be used instead of entertained and educated.

Communists Denied Place on Ballot

by Joelle Dominski
Modern Times Staff

The Communist Party was denied a place on the Connecticut ballot last week, when their suit for ballot status was dismissed by Judge David Shea in State Superior Court.

However, the Hall-Tyner Election Campaign Committee has announced that they will conduct a write-in campaign for Gus Hall and Jarvis Tyner for President and Vice-President. The Campaign Committee also announced that they will run other candidates in the future.

During the summer months over 20,000 Connecticut citizens---5000 in New Haven alone---put their signatures on nominating petitions for Gus Hall and Jarvis Tyner to appear on the ballot. By September 5, 18,700 of these signatures, over 6,000 more than required, were filed with Town Clerks in 61 towns.

Nevertheless, on September 26 the Communist Party was notified by the Secretary of State that some 9000 signatures were rejected as alledged non-registered voters, leaving them short 3,400 signatures.

Filed A Suit

The Communist Party immediately filed suit in State Superior Court with the help of the Connecticut Civil Liberties Union, and public support of the League of Women Voters. Other concerned organizations and individuals came together to form a Free Access to the Ballot Committee. In a public statement, the Committee explained,

"We think there is no more important priority for Americans than insuring that all citizens have a fair chance to vote for the candidate of their choice in a Presidential election...The democratic right to ballot status for minority parties is threatened by the treatment some officials afforded Communist Party petitions..."

The Committee pointed to the fact that when the lawsuit was filed, 775 signatures which had been found to be valid registered voters, but had been rejected by Town Clerks, were presented as evidence. These names were compiled in one week. Within the next two weeks, the Hall-Tyner Committee discovered some 1500 more valid signatures among those that had been rejected, 900 were from New Haven.

Rejected Randomly

Many of the signers were apparently randomly rejected, including two of the Presidential Electors of the Communist Party, who must be registered to vote to run for that office.

Also eliminated were many voters between the ages of 18 and 21 who registered for the first time and were not included in the Town Clerks' voting lists.

In its suit against 11 Town Clerks, the Communist Party argued that having produced 2,000 alleged illegally stricken signatures, which had been uncovered in only three weeks, it would be an undue hardship to produce 1,000 additional signatures before November 7. In addition to the time limitation, limited resources and uncooperativeness of city officials were given as reasons why the additional names could not be produced in time for the November 7 election.

Michael Avery, counsel for the Communist Party, protested to the Court the present system petitioning parties must go through to gain ballot status, citing the difficulty in submitting signatures to individual town clerks, the short time of three weeks left for any challenges, and the problems in locating petition signers on voters lists if changes of address are involved.

Motion Dismissed

Despite Avery's emphasis that a sufficient number of signatures had been turned in, Judge Shea dismissed the motion for granting ballot status, and followed the requests of the Secretary of State and 11 Town Clerks. He stated that he did not think previous cases of the Communist Party being granted ballot status cited by Atty. Avery offered sufficient precedent to warrant such an order in this case.

The Hall-Tyner Committee said that over 1,000 signatures were never handed in, because of the practice of handing signatures in to Town Clerks instead of the Secretary of State.

The committee said they found it "physically impossible to turn signatures in to 97 of the towns represented on petitions." The New England area is the only part of the country where signatures are not handed in directly to the Secretary of State.

The lawsuit in Connecticut was one of many around the country. The Communist Party collected signatures in 30 states and is now on the ballot in 14 states.

When It Rains...

George Borgnis, a resident of the Housing for the Elderly on Henry and County Streets,shows Modern Times photographer Nick Heyer the leaks in his home. Complaining for two years to the authorities hasn't helped.

Public Park Grabbed By Privateers

by Richard Belford
Save the Park Committee

"It (the olympic size rowing course) is indeed a good example of public and private cooperation possible here in the United States under the American private enterprise system."

So wrote the philosopher Juan T. Trippe on September 24, 1969 in his letter to the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. And who, of course, knows better the workings of the American private enterprise system, for is not the philosopher also the millionaire former director of Pan American World Airways,Inc., and now president of the international rowing corporation?

The procedure is fairly simple. Remember the public parkland known as Edgewood Park and West River Memorial Park? Well, the City of New Haven is prepared to turn over to the philosopher's private corporation about 100 acres of this public park for a minimum of 40 years. *The actual area is about a mile and a half long and 500 feet wide.* In addition to the waterway there will be dams, roads, fences, bridges, sewers, and utilities.

Public Irrelevant

Of course, during March, April, May and June of each year for the next 40 years the public will be allowed to use the rowing course for *6 hours each week.*

Of course, the Chapel Street bridge will have to be demolished. But don't worry about an alternate route for the vehicles. The plan (would you believe it?) is to build a loop road right through the park!

Okay, so the public parkland will be turned over for a pittance for predominantly private use which has only indirect, if any, relevance to public and recreational purposes. And the public will lose parkland and marshes which are virtually irreplaceable. And one shudders to think of the disastrous ecological consequences. Enough?

No. It's not enough to turn over public parkland to the private corporation for practically nothing. How about the millions of dollars to construct this gigantic private enterprise (and incidentally a few public facilities which the City should have built years ago)? After all, the international rowing corporation really doesn't have much in the way of assets. It doesn't even have the money to develop the initial schematic plans which the contract says are attached, but which are not even in existence. So where does the money come from?

Well, our philosopher has that one all figured out. As long as the public is practically donating public land, why not have the public donate a good part of the money to build this extravaganza?

But wait, there is no law on the books which would permit public money to be used for this purpose. Our philosopher, undaunted, has a solution! According to the New Haven Journal - Courier of August 11, 1972 the corporation will ask the United States Congress to pass a law specially appropriating public funds to help finance the construction. (A flat grant, perhaps?) The Courier news story states that City officials "expressed private confidence that Trippe, through intimate connections with the White House will be able to get whatever funds he requests."

So there we have it: Public parkland and public money to be turned over to a private corporation for an essentially private enterprise.

Biggest Means Best

If this ever gets built, Edgewood Park and West River Memorial Park will have the biggest rowing course in the whole United State of America. And we all know that biggest means best.

Other cities, such as Los Angeles and St. Louis, were also under consideration for this project. Even the State of Washington is in the running. But *we* in New Haven have been *chosen!!*

One cannot help but be reminded of another philosopher (this one a grass-roots philosopher) named Tevya, in Fiddler on the Roof, who rolled back his eyes, looked heavenward, and sighed: "I know, Lord, that we're the chosen people, but couldn't you maybe choose someone else for a change?"

State Use of Roofing Pitch Menaces Roofers' Health

by Dean Johnson
Occupational Health and Safety Project

This is the first of a new series of about six articles on occupational health and safety problems which will appear in MODERN TIMES.

In researching occupational health enforcement in Connecticut, I have found no more shocking case of neglect than that of the use of pitch in the roofing industry.

Roofing is one of the five industries which, because of its poor health and safety record, has been cited by the Federal Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) as a "target industry." Pitch is one obvious reason for this designation.

Pitch is a residue produced from the distillation of coal tar. Its primary use is in sealing and waterproofing roofs. Unfortunately, it contains a high concentration of raw sulfur. When pitch is heated in preparation for use in roofing, the sulfur reacts with air to form sulfur dioxide, a poisonous green-yellow gas. Exposure to sulfur dioxide fumes can cause burning, itching and inflammation of the skin and under prolonged exposure can cause skin cancer. It can also cause or aggravate respiratory diseases like emphysema.

Drink to Survive

I recently interviewed William J. O'Brien, head of Roofer's Union Local No. 9 in Hartford, concerning health problems in the roofing industry. According to O'Brien, pitch has been a menace to roofers since before he entered the trade, some 25 years ago. "When I was working on roofs," said O'Brien, "there was only one way that you could survive a pitch job. Every afternoon, after work, you had to go to the nearest bar and drink until you passed out. That was the only way you could get a night's sleep."

At this point, O'Brien proposed an experiment. In order to demonstrate to me the pervasiveness of the pitch problem, he suggested that I choose some men at random from the group of roofers in the next room. I chose two men, both roofers of about 15 years experience. Both agreed in the strongest possible terms that pitch was the largest problem in roofing.

I asked the men about the effects of pitch, about protective devices and about inspections by state and federal agencies. Both men had seen fellow workers rushed to the hospital for treatment of the skin and eyes because of sulphur dioxide fumes. Both had seen countless means of protection tried--goggles, face masks--and had seen them all fail. Neither had seen a health department inspector on a job site. "In fact," remarked one, "the only inspector we ever see is the safety inspector (from the state labor department)--after an accident."

Reminding O'Brien that there are state and federal agencies that are concerned with occupational health, I asked if these agencies had done anything about pitch. The union leader replied that there are cheap, effective substitutes for pitch and that, in fact, many states, such as Rhode Island and California had outlawed pitch. In most other states, roofers receive a special premium for working with pitch.

State Requires Pitch

In Connecticut , however, the situation seems to be reversed. Not only has the State not outlawed pitch, but the government itself requires pitch on all jobs for which it contracts. Thus, the state government in Connecticut is the chief user of pitch. Moreover, roofers in Connecticut cannot receive a premium for pitch work.

Last year, they attempted to provide for this premium in the new contract that they they were negotiating at the time. Readers will remember that this was the period of the Nixon wage freeze. The roofers were told, therefore, that their special premium clause was illegal.

In Connecticut, the primary distributor of pitch is the Koppers Company of Portland. The pitch itself is manufactured in a Koppers Company installation in Kearny, New Jersey. By insisting that pitch be used for state jobs, the state government is subsidizing the Koppers Company operations at the expense of the health of our roofers.

PERISCOPE
On The Environment

VICTORY (MAYBE) ON THE UI POWERLINES

The State Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently ruled that the United Illuminating Company could not erect its proposed powerlines along Quinnipiac Park and across the Mill River. This was in contrast to a ruling by the Public Utilities Commission that said they could. The UI is appealing the ruling. If the EPA ruling is sustained, the community groups that fought the powerlines are to be congratulated, especially those that came together as the Community Organizations Against Power Pollution two years ago. It seemed like a losing battle all the way and now the fight is almost won.

OUR 300 MILLION YEAR OLD FRIEND--THE COCKROACH

The cockroach, which 300 million years ago was walking around swamps of giant ferns, now finds a happy home in our urban areas. Since the roach originally comes from a swamp, it likes warm, moist areas under sinks, refrigerators and often nests in televisions. The roach does best in dilapidated, crowded housing (which we have a lot of). Because it has plenty of cracks and moist places to hide in and it can migrate quickly from household to household.

The best way to combat roaches is by environmental control: One essential is decent, dry, well constructed housing. Secondly, it is critical to keep all food out of the roach's reach in either plastic, glass, or metal containers. Dishes should be washed promptly, floors and counters should be kept clean and garbage taken out regularly. A sprinkling of finely ground boric acid or Boraxo along cracks where roaches run provides a slow acting but relatively safe and effective insecticide. (The Connecticut Agricultural Station can provide information about how to obtain boric acid of the right kind). The boric acid gets on the roaches' legs and then is eaten by the roach when it grooms itself.

Roach control is important because they present a public health hazard. They have been implicated as carriers of diseases ranging from food poisoning to polio. Since they frequent both bathrooms and kitchens they can carry diseases from the bathroom to the kitchen where food is prepared. Besides carrying diseases they have a horrible odor and make life generally unpleasant.

If you work for a living...

HOW IN HELL CAN YOU VOTE FOR NIXON?

Unfair Taxes Under Nixon

The Nixon Administration has pushed through corporate tax cuts worth $80 billion to the corporations over 10 years. Now individuals pay 77 percent *of all federal income taxes—7 percent more than they paid when Nixon took* office. But corporations pay only 23 percent of all federal income taxes—7 percent *less* than they did in 1969.

Soaring Prices Under Nixon

During the first three and a half years of the Nixon Administration, the cost of living has soared 17.6 percent, by official government figures. Food continues to cost more and more. Nixon's Secretary of Agriculture says that's good because the rich can buy more steaks. The U.S. sells so much wheat to Russia the baking corporations want to charge more for bread. American workers can't afford Richard Nixon.

More Unemployment Under Nixon

When Richard Nixon was elected President, there were about three million unemployed. Now there are more than five million. Millions more are forced to work part-time. In some areas of the country, the unemployment rate is over 10 percent. But Richard Nixon still opposes government programs for jobs for people who need them.

Wages Frozen Under Nixon

After announcing he would not impose wage and price controls, Richard Nixon did a turnabout. He slapped on wage controls that tore up fairly negotiated contracts and put a 5% ceiling on wage increases. Meanwhile, corporate profits have surged to an all-time record high.

How McGOVERN Will Help The Worker

- George McGovern has one of the best pro-labor voting records of any member of Congress—94.1% right.
- George McGovern is a leader in the fight for tax reform and for closing tax loopholes. He believes a bologna sandwich should be just as tax deductible as a martini.
- George McGovern has a positive economic policy of full employment to provide meaningful and useful jobs for every person who needs to work.
- George McGovern will work to stop runaway food prices by putting a lid on exorbitant profits and by breaking up the big monopolies that put the squeeze on the consumer.
- George McGovern has long recognized the need for protecting the health and safety of American workers. He would enforce tough safety standards to carry out the intent to the Occupational Safety and Health Act.
- George McGovern is a leading advocate of improved health care for all Americans. He is a co-sponsor of the National Health Insurance Act and has worked to hold down the cost of medicine.

3rd District Labor Committee for McGovern

On The Job Foundry Work: Hot And Heavy

by John J. Del Vecchio

Dear Friends,

I regularly read Modern Times and especially enjoy the section about people's occupations.

I have enclosed some material on foundry work which maybe you would be interested in. I would try to get some pictures of what foundry work is like if you thought you'd want to print it.

Best wishes to you.

My name's John. Presently I'm working for the State Labor Council on the political action staff. But this is temporary...my real occupation is foundry work.

I first became a laborer in the foundry at the Jenkins Valve Company in Bridgeport two years ago, when I was 19. A lot of people look down on or shun foundry work because it's hot, dirty, and dangerous, but I really came to like it. I figure, if you're going to work, you might as well do something that you can really put a lot of effort into. A job that has some challenges to it. Work that makes you feel you've really done something.

Foundry work is like that, if you can get into it.

At Jenkins, the whole shop depended on the foundry, because this is where the basic product--the valves--are made by casting. This process includes the heating and pouring of hot metal (bronze and nickel, and various alloys) into molds that actually shape the valves. The molds are then dumped, shaken out, and the castings of the valves are cleaned and sent out to other areas of the shop for machining.

Laborer using hooks to remove hot castings from automatic moulding system.

100 in Foundry

About 100 of Jenkin's 650 production employees work in the foundry department. About three fourths are Black, and the others include Eastern Europeans, Italians, and Puerto Ricans. Some of the older men, now in their 50s or 60s, have been working in the foundry since the early 1940s. Many, like me, started out as laborers and have now taken over the more skilled jobs like furnace tender or metal pourer.

The principle jobs in the foundry are furnace tenders, molders, metal pourers, and laborers.

The furnace tenders are in charge of the giant electric furnaces where the metals are heated up. It's their job to charge the furnaces, load the metals, and make sure everything is running smoothly. These men, almost all in their 50s and 60s, work under conditions of extreme heat, sparks, and noise.

The molders, a somewhat younger group of men, work on the molding machines, a high-speed operation requiring concentration and dexterity. They must fill metal containers, called flasks, *with sand, insert cores, and operate the machine that shapes the mold into a pattern of the valve desired. They then load* the sand-filled flasks onto a conveyor belt which we call the "line." The molders are subjected to a lot of dust and noise.

The metal pourers have the job of transporting pots full of hot metal from the furnaces to the "lines", via a monorail system. They must tip the pots just the right way so that the hot metal will flow into the flask at the right speed, otherwise the casting could be ruined. The pourers have to contend with intense heat and the ever-present danger of getting burned.

Laborers Largest Group

The largest group of workers in the foundry are the laborers, who service the "lines" on which the filled flasks are placed. They must cover the flask tops with heavy metal weights, pick up scrap metal, help the molder and pourer in their operations, shakeout the molds after the metal has been poured, and load the sometimes glowing-hot valve castings into shop trucks.

Some people say it's just unskilled *work, but to be a good "line man" re-*quires a lot of effort, concentration, and speed, and learning a certain "knack" to the job. The laborers, unfortunately, get the worst of everything--sand, dust, hot metal, fumes, coupled with extremely difficult manual labor. I can tell you, after a long day at work it sure feels good to have a cold beer at the neighborhood tavern, where a lot of the foundry workers drop in.

Because of the dust, most of the foundry windows are left open all year to help the air circulate. Thus, in the winter, the foundry is often freezing cold. In fact, I can vividly remember the first time I saw it snowing in the foundry, with the white stuff coming through the open roof windows and quickly melting as it approached the hot floor.

During the summer, especially on muggy days, the heat can become unbearable. When that happens, the workers get together and decide to quit early. Normally the company goes along with this because most men simply can not work under those conditions.

A Good Day's Work

The work is hard and some guys try to do as little as possible, but most put in a good day's work. Some of the younger men figure this job is temporary, until something better comes along. Many of the workers in the more skilled jobs take a real pride in their work, and like to talk about the old days when they were young laborers and the work, according to them, was even harder.

Everybody's always on the move, except for the occasional break when it's time for soda, jokes, stories, and shop talk.

The foundrymen, like all the workers at Jenkins, are members of the Union--United Steelworkers, Local 5623. A couple of the men are active in the union, and a few more take a passing interest. Most, however, just feel the Union should be there to take care of grievances, press for better benefits and working conditions. When I was there, the Union even had a special meetting just for the foundry workers, to discuss problems of working conditions and the "incentive" system.

Safety Observers

Several of the men are Union "Safety Observers" who keep an eye open for hazards, one of the bad features of foundry work. Almost everybody gets cut, burned, or injured in some way while working there.

Another laborer and myself served on the Union Education Committee, and we put out a paper--"Foundry News"--which many of the workers *read. It had social news, like who was in* the hospital, or getting married, died, etc., plus some labor news and bulletins from the Union. We also used to pass out Union leaflets and take up collections for men who were out sick or who had deaths in the family.

Most of the men do not make a lot of money. Laborers, for example, start out at around $120 a week. On incentive, some men do much better, but few make over $200 a week which is still under what the Government says is a moderate standard of living. Many men hold second jobs, trying to make ends meet or do things for their family.

Foundry work takes a lot of stamina and it really can take a lot out of you. Most of the foundrymen are hard-working guys who deserve a little more credit than they ever get. Most people don't even know we exist or what it's like. They should work there for a day--then they'd know what hard work is really like!

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